



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Nobuo KIMURA, et al.

Application No. 09/530,196

Confirmation No. 2129

Filed: August 22, 2000

For: METALLIC PLATE OR RESIN  
STRUCTURE

Art Unit: 1754

Examiner: E. JOHNSON

Attorney Docket No. 31981-160441

Customer No



26694

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

February 11, 2002

#11  
2/24/02  
mm

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This paper is presented in response to the restriction requirement of December 11, 2001 and pursuant to a telephone conference with the Examiner on February 7, 2002. Applicants hereby petition for a one-month extension. The requisite fee is enclosed. Should the fee be missing or should additional fees be due please charge the same to Deposit Account 22-0261 and advise our offices.

REMARKS

In the December 11, 2001 Paper the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Examiner [hereinafter "PTO"] alleged that the claims of the application embraced two different inventions, as follows:

- Group I, including claims 1-20, and
- Group II, including claims 21-22.

RECEIVED  
FEB 15 2002  
TC 1700

For the purposes of response, applicants elect group I claims for prosecution.

In view of the request for election of species, the undersigned phoned the Examiner to determine whether this was a request to elect an article. The Examiner indicated that to be the case. Accordingly, in response to the election for species, applicants elect the outdoor-use signboards and other signs in claims 19 and 20.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned, should any minor issues remain to place the case in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



Marina V. Schneller  
Registration No. 26,032

VENABLE  
Post Office Box 34385  
Washington, D.C. 20043-9998  
Telephone: (202) 962-4062  
Facsimile: (202) 962-8300

DC2-350735